National Association will Look Into Turf Scandal.

WOULD PUNISH SMATHERS

President Johnson of National Trotting Association Declares That Smathers Affair Should Be Investigated and Guilty Parties Punished.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.-Characterizing the Memphis gold cup case as the most deplorable turf scandal he had ever known and calculated to work untold injury to harness racing interests, David Bonner yesterday declared made P. F. Johnson president of the National Trotting Association, that he deemed it the duty of that organization to investigate the charges made against E. E. Smathers and either mete out swift punishment to the conspirators or brand the accusations as false if found to be untrue.

Speaking with all the rehemence at his command, the former vice president of the National Trotting Association, added:

"As the guardian of harness racing, the National Trotting Association owes it to the sport to take cognizance of the case without waiting for a trial in the civil courts a year or two hence which will punish nobody and perhaps decide nothing except the legal title to the cup. In my opinion Mr. President. the importance of the case demands a special meeting of the board of review and I hope you will call one as soon as the parties to the case are ready to be heard.

"So far as I can judge of the case from reading the newspapers, I do not see anything in it which requires the decision of either the courts or the board of reviews," replied Major Johnston." 'The only evidence that has been disclosed thus far is from two men who are by their own confession discredited.

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I do not doubt that the board of review will deal with the case if represted to do so by either of the parties interested and we may decide to do so on our own motion."

"Under the rule of the National Association," continued Major Johnson, 'every member and everyone who makes an entry in a race agrees to submit all disputes arising out of races to the judgment of this association and I am rather surprised that the Memphis men have taken the case to the courts."

(Continued from page 3) Columbia River Packer's Asso-

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